

Rogue River Courier

DAILY EDITION

VOL. VI., No. 72.

GRANTS PASS, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1915.

WHOLE NUMBER 1616.

No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

GREECE AND ALLIES NEAR A CRISIS

King Declines to Grant Further Concessions to the Entente Powers, and Ends Diplomatic Conversations

Athens, Dec. 11.—Greece has refused to grant further concessions to the allies at present, it became known authoritatively today.

With the allies in an apparently tight corner in their Serbian operation, and following upon the heels of unconfirmed reports that they are fleeing Serbia, Greece announced that conversations with the allied diplomats had ended.

Thus relations between Greece and the allies are approaching a crisis. Officials on both sides are pessimistic over the outcome.

Meantime Saloniki reports denied that the Germans under General von Gallwitz had occupied Givigli, near the Greek border, and declared that the place was still in the allies' hands at noon yesterday.

Officially, at least a part of the allies have evacuated Serbia, heading toward Greece. Whether the forces of the central powers pursued them into Greece is not known. It is believed, however, that the allies will retire to Saloniki.

BLACKHAND CASE AT SAN JOSE ON TRIAL SATURDAY

San Jose, Cal., Dec. 11.—Professor R. L. Greene, of Stanford university, called by defense to impeach testimony against Jos. Vetrano, alleged blackhand, was denounced as an assassin of character by District Attorney Frein in his closing argument today in the second of the so-called blackhand cases brought against Vetrano here. Prof. Greene attempted to impeach Detective W. J. Dreischmeyer's testimony.

"I have risked my life in attempting to free this community from the blackhand vultures, and if you have any regard for this city; if you want to save it from the repetition of what happened in New Orleans several years ago, you will help the United States government in bringing these men to justice," he told the jury.

The jury will get the case late this afternoon.

Vetrano was arrested, together with Tonio de Franco, by Detective Dreischmeyer, after a two years' investigation.

It is expected federal action will be taken in the blackhand case.

FEMALE JURY IN SAN DIEGO FAILS TO AGREE

San Diego, Dec. 11.—Justice Solon Bryan today is not so enthusiastic over woman juries as he was yesterday, when he called the first jury composed of women in this city. They could not agree, so he discharged them. The case was that of a restaurant owner, accused of battery upon a female union picket. They argued six hours without an agreement.

DETAIN GREEK STEAMERS IN PORTS OF ALLIES

Athens, Dec. 11.—A number of Greek steamers have been detained in allied ports, the newspaper Hestia stated today.

CRIPPLING OF LINER CHARGED TO BOMB PLOTTERS

Washington, Dec. 11.—While awaiting wire reports from San Francisco concerning the mystery surrounding the crippled food laden ship Minnesota, department of justice officials admitted today they did not believe her breakdown was accidental.

On the other hand they expressed belief that there is a connection between evidence in the alleged Pacific coast bomb plots and the mishap to the giant liner.

They refused, however, to give any definite particulars.

San Francisco, Dec. 11.—With the belief in local shipping circles growing stronger that the boilers of the liner Minnesota were tampered with, Federal District Attorney Preston today took steps to board the liner as she passes through the Golden Gate.

Preston is under orders from the department of justice at Washington to begin an investigation without delay as soon as the liner drops anchor, and is endeavoring to obtain the use of a revenue cutter to meet her.

Steamship inspectors J. P. Dolan and James Guthrie are in receipt of orders from Supervising Inspector John K. Bupliger, who is in Seattle, to board the Minnesota as soon as possible to conduct an investigation into the boiler and machinery troubles.

The Minnesota's boilers were filled with mud, oil and scale, indicating either gross negligence or malicious intent to destroy them, according to a wireless report.

Marine Port Captain Wiley of the Hill company declared that it is silly to believe that officials of the line at Seattle would permit the steamer to start on a long voyage without having everything in good shape. This is in opposition to stories from Seattle that the boilers were in bad condition.

San Luis Obispo, Cal., Dec. 11.—The disabled Hill liner Minnesota, proceeding slowly up the coast in tow, is not expected off Port Hartford before night. The Minnesota is reported about midway between Port Hartford and San Pedro. Another tug will arrive here this afternoon from San Francisco to assist in towing the crippled vessel, according to the wharfinger.

London, Dec. 11.—Press reports today said Bulgaria had proposed to Greece the creation of a neutral zone on the border of Greece, Serbia and Macedonia and that Greece probably would accept.

U. S. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS INVOLVED

Trouble With Austria Over the Sinking of the Ancona Is Possible Following the Ultimatum Sent to Vienna, While Disputes Are Pending With England, France and Germany That Complicate the Diplomatic Situation

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

Washington, Dec. 11.—International relations involving this nation came to a head today. The most ominous situation was the Austrian. Grave danger of a severance of diplomatic relations over the sinking of the Italian liner Ancona, with loss of American lives, loomed ahead. The American note to Vienna, amounting to an ultimatum, made it impossible for Vienna to dicker over the situation. Any attempt to do so was regarded as likely to precipitate the break immediately.

With France this nation likewise had a dispute on its hands in the matter of the French shelling of the American steamer Coamo. Investigation of this matter had been ordered. It was practically the first event of a thoroughly important nature in which France had become involved.

As for England, congressmen insisted that strong action be taken to end the British embargo against American commerce.

With Germany there was an apparent deadlock over the negotiations arising from the torpedoing of the Lusitania, with loss of American lives.

The silence of Vienna in the face of sharp American demands for action seemed ominous. On every side was the question, "Does Austria intend to disregard America's firm requests and force a break?"

The outlook in most quarters seemed none too optimistic.

As for Germany, however, the situation was less tense. Her accession, without a contest, to American demands for recall of Attaches von Papen and Boy-Ed of the German embassy cleared the atmosphere in that direction at least.

The state department planned to start action on the request of Germany that England be asked for a safe conduct for the pair. As to what course this government will pursue toward the safe conducts asked for their successors there seemed some doubt. On this point, however, no friction was anticipated.

With the foreign situation tangled, the administration today hoped members of congress would "put on the

soft pedal" in their arraignment of foreign nations.

Senators Hoke Smith and Welsh, however, apparently intend to keep after England, because of her treatment of shipments of cotton and copper in which the men are interested. Moreover, Senator Lodge's resolution to probe submarine incidents and bomb plots tends to complicate the situation still further, and there is no assurance that many other members will not take a hand in discussions and resolutions that do the situation no good from a diplomatic standpoint.

One of the Zwidenek letters suggested: "Perhaps it will be possible to procure suitable passports of neutral countries at a slight expense."

These letters apparently came from the Providence Journal, which has been conducting an expose of alleged Teuton activities.

Secretary Lansing compared the photographs with those of newspaper fac-similes, but withheld comment. Publication of the letters at a time when startling developments in the Austrian situation are expected served to increase the tension in diplomatic quarters.

Department of justice authorities intimated during the day that Consul General Nuber's status is precarious and that the situation at New York is "extremely tense." Since the recent conference between government heads on the subject of enforcement of neutrality, the department has organized its federal district attorneys everywhere throughout the country carefully for a campaign against bomb plotters and neutrality transgressors.

REPORT THAT GREECE WILL DEMOBILIZE ARMY

Paris, Dec. 11.—An Athens news agency reported today that Greece will soon demobilize her forces.

HOCKING IS RELEASED

Halifax, Dec. 11.—The admiralty court today ordered release of the American steamer Hocking, seized recently.

U.S. ASKS FOR SAFE CONDUCT HOME OF GERMAN ATTACHES

Washington, Dec. 11.—The British and French embassies were sent formal state department requests this afternoon for safe conducts for the recalled attaches, von Papen and Boy-Ed, of the German embassy.

While no difficulty in obtaining the conducts is expected, the two attaches probably will remain in America in case the request should be refused. In such an event they would be without diplomatic status and probably subject to close watching.

MYSTERY MAN IS REMOVED FROM LAYSAN ISLAND

San Francisco, Dec. 11.—Max Schlemmer, the "Mystery Man of Laysan Isle," who was discovered by shipwrecked sailors from the bark O. M. Kellogg, was taken from his strange home by United States immigration officers of Honolulu and is now held for investigation, according to word brought today by officers of the liner Great Northern.

The probe relates to a number of reports that Schlemmer, with his young son and Harold Brand, a Norse sailor, were planning to erect a radio station on the island and communicate with certain German ships. When the naval ship Narcissus arrived at the island a distress signal was flying over the Schlemmer camp. Food had given out and Brand and the son were seriously ill from eating too many wild rabbits, the only food obtainable.

Schlemmer, when taken into custody, declared that his purpose in staying on the lone island was his fondness for birds.

BRITISH FREIGHTER PUTS BACK TO PORT WITH FIRE IN HOLD

New York, Dec. 11.—Discovery of a mysterious fire in her afterhold drove the 3,470-ton sugar laden British freighter Tyinghame back into port today, with her crew fighting the flames and a heavy smoke blanketing her.

The fire was found when the vessel was only a few miles out of port on her way to Queenstown. A harbor fire boat rushed to her aid and poured great streams upon her, but despite this and her crew's valiant work, there was some doubt that the blaze could be controlled.

While the origin of the fire is a mystery, it is believed to be incendiary, the work of anti-ally agents. Twenty minutes after she passed the Narrows and headed out to sea, officers found the blaze. Her wireless operator cracked out the news that she was heading back, giving to shore stations the sign "N. H.," meaning that she was either afire or leaking. As soon as it was learned that her plight was serious, aid was sent in the form of a fireboat, though the wireless call indicated that she was able to make shore without imperiling the crew.

A bag of chemical bottles was found Wednesday in the Tyinghame's hold. The fire aboard her it the third discovered within a week aboard ships leaving the Erie basin.

It seemed unlikely this afternoon that the cause of the fire ever will be ascertained.

London, Dec. 11.—The 2,700-ton British vessel Busiris has been sunk by a submarine, but her crew was landed.

THOUSANDS ENLIST IN ENGLAND

Recruiting Offices Are Rushed to the Limit to Care for Applicants to Join Army and Stay Conscription Law

London, Dec. 11.—In a whirlwind eleventh-hour attempt to stay a conscription move, thousands of men today overwhelmed recruiting offices in their anxiety to enroll before Lord Derby's enlistment campaign ends at midnight.

So rushed were the recruiting men that the usual examinations were dispensed with. Doctors merely noted their names and told them they would be examined later.

Young men, single and married, and middle-aged men were in the enlisting throngs. The chief station at Scotland Yard was opened at seven o'clock, after a crowd, including several men in silk hats, a dozen bank clerks and some professional men had been lined up for over an hour. In south London the crowds were even heavier.

Provincial cities reported they had recruited men all night and weary officers faced additional thousands this morning.

From Liverpool came a plea for more time, as the officers there had been unable to enroll the men already besieging the offices. Birmingham disposed of 10,000 armlets, signifying enlistments, and requested more.

Women school teachers were drafted as aides to the recruiting sergeants at Glasgow, where throngs of volunteers waited in the rain. Three hundred extra recruiting men had to be put on at Leeds.

On Lord Derby's report to the cabinet tomorrow as to the results of his campaign will probably depend the government's decision as to whether or not it shall engage in conscription to fill the ranks.

Because of the pressure of applications, Lord Derby directed that the stations be kept open tomorrow to accept more volunteers, if necessary.

TRANSPORT SHERIDAN HAD BATTLE WITH TYPHOON

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
San Francisco, Dec. 11.—After escaping from the grip of the most terrific typhoon that ever hit the Philippines, the United States transport Sheridan is nearing San Francisco. For several hours the transport was lashed about by a wind which ranged between 200 and 250 miles an hour. The Sheridan will arrive Monday with the Seventh U. S. cavalry.

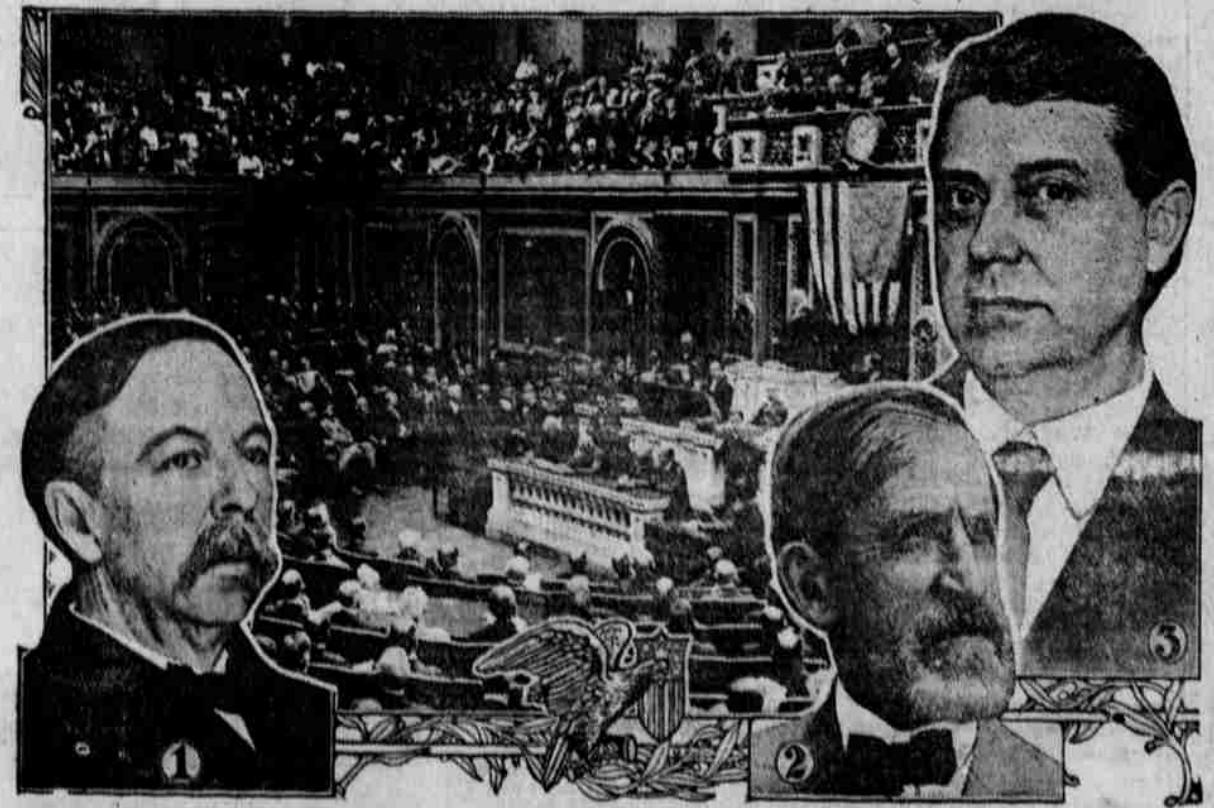
RESCUE 80 MINERS AFTER BEING BURIED FOR TWENTY HOURS

(By United Press Leased Wire)
Tacoma, Dec. 11.—After being entombed for more than 20 hours, eighty miners employed at the Wingard mine near Carbonado were rescued at 10:30 this morning after desperate efforts on the part of an army of workmen to reach them.

Two of the men, Antone Cuccolo, 35 years old, and Kosmar Blachnich, 27, were killed by falling earth.

The miners were entombed at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon by the cave-in. Rescuers were able to force airshafts through the debris and thus give the imprisoned men air until they could be dug out.

EYES OF WORLD ON SIXTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.



The opening of congress on Dec. 6 will go down into history as an epoch making event. The defense program fight will be watched by the world. Leaders in the fight: No. 1, Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the military affairs committee; No. 2, Senator Kern, leader of the senate majority; No. 3, Representative Kitchin, leader of the house majority; middle picture, house of representatives in session.